

1                               BEFORE THE  
2                               ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION

3       IN THE MATTER OF:                               )  
4    )  
5       Stage 1 Investigatoin of                        )  
6       Commonwealth Edison System                    )  
7       Outages for the Period of                      )  
8       July 30, 1999 to August 13,                    )  
9       1999.    )

10                               Chicago, Illinois

11                               January 5, 2000

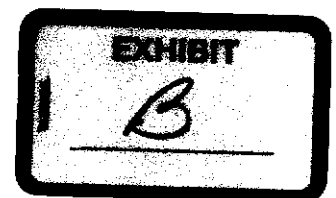
12                               Met pursuant to notice at 1:30 p.m.

13       BEFORE:

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CHAIRMAN RICHARD MATHIAS  
COMMISSIONER RUTH KRETSCHMER



16 COMMISSIONER TERRY HARVIL  
COMMISSIONER EDWARD HURLEY  
17 COMMISSIONER RICHARD KOLHAUSER (Telephonically)

18 ALSO PRESENT:  
Mr. Walter P. Drabinski  
Vantage Consulting, Inc.  
19  
20 SULLIVAN REPORTING COMPANY, by  
Barbara A. Richmond, CSR

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1               CHAIRMAN MATHIAS: Good afternoon, this is  
2 a general open meeting of the Illinois Commerce  
3 Commission, held pursuant to the Open Meeting Law of  
4 the State of Illinois. Due notice of the meeting  
5 has been provided, an agenda has been circulated and  
6 the requisite notice of the meeting has been  
7 provided.

8               Present soon to join us in Springfield  
9 will be Commissioner Richard Kolhauser. Present in  
10 Chicago are Commissioner Kretschmer, Commissioner  
11 Harvil, Commissioner Hurley and myself, Commissioner  
12 Mathias. We have a quorum for this special meetings  
13 and therefore we will begin.

14              This special meeting has been called to  
15 receive the report of investigation by Vantage  
16 Consulting, Inc., a consulting company based in  
17 Wayne, Pennsylvania. And with us today is Walter  
18 Drabinski who is president of Vantage Consulting.

19              This is the first of two meetings which  
20 the Illinois Commerce Commission will have this week

- 21 to review the reliability concerns which the
- 22 Commission has with regard to Commonwealth Edison.

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1 Today's report will be the report of the so-called  
2 Phase I investigation of the Commission. As the  
3 information which has been circulated to the  
4 participants of today's meeting indicates, this  
5 investigation of the Illinois Commerce Commission is  
6 a three phase investigation, and this is the first  
7 phase of that investigation.

8           Phases II and III will deal with an  
9 investigation of Commonwealth Edison transmission  
10 and distribution lines and systems, and will be a  
11 much more comprehensive long term analysis. We are  
12 expecting that report or a portion of that report to  
13 be completed in mid spring.

14           The Phase I investigation which  
15 Mr. Drabinski is here today to discuss has to do  
16 with the event specific investigation of  
17 Commonwealth Edison concerning the outages which  
18 occurred during the period of July 30th, 1999 to  
19 August 13th, 1999. As I indicated this is an event  
20 specific investigation, it's a snapshot of what  
21 occurred in that particular time period, a time  
22 period in which the Commonwealth Edison transmission

1 and distribution system was under extreme stress.

2           Again, Phases II and III will be reported  
3 upon later this spring. Mr. Drabinski, thank you  
4 very much for being with us today. And before you  
5 begin, could I ask you to give a brief resume of  
6 your professional credentials as well as the  
7 professional credentials of your Vantage  
8 Consulting.

9           MR. DRABINSKI: I would be pleased to.  
10 Thank you very much for having me here. I'll start  
11 with my own background, and talk about the rest of  
12 the team and the firm. I spent my first 10 years  
13 with the utility Niagara Mohawk Power, Upstate New  
14 York. The first five I spent constructing and  
15 maintaining transmission line, substations and power  
16 plants. I was part of the construction of a 1500  
17 kV, 345 kV transmission lines and I was the  
18 electrical maintenance supervisor for the plant that  
19 those lines were at. So I had a fair amount of  
20 field experience with these types of systems.

21           My next five years was spent as director  
22 of training for the company with responsibility for

1 all fossil training and nuclear technical training.

2 After 10 years I left and went to graduate school at  
3 the University of Pennsylvania's Warden School, and  
4 went into consulting with a number of national firms  
5 for about six or seven years, all of that work was  
6 directly related to the electric, gas, telephone  
7 industries.

8           1991, I left the firm I was with, and  
9 started Vantage Consulting. We have been in  
10 operation for just nine years at this point in  
11 time. All of the work that Vantage has done is in  
12 the regulated utility industry. Primarily electric,  
13 gas and telephone, a little bit of water. And  
14 during my career, and in the nine years that I've  
15 been president of Vantage, we have done numerous  
16 management and operational audits of utilities,  
17 where we looked at everything from management  
18 structure and strategy to field operations,  
19 transmission, distribution, processes, policies,  
20 procedures. So the type of work that we were asked  
21 to do on this assignment is something we are very  
22 familiar with.

1                   CHAIRMAN MATHIAS: And you are an  
2   electrical engineer?

3                   MR. DRABINSKI: I'm an electric engineer.  
4   My engineering background was in power systems,  
5   transmission line design 30 years ago, I must  
6   caution you. The team that I put together consisted

7 of six employees, or six consultants. Five of the  
8 six were engineers, two of them professional  
9 engineers. Without going into a lot of detail, for  
10 example, Mr. Don Payless (phonetic), one of the  
11 engineers worked on the project, has worked on  
12 numerous projects over his 35-year career, designing  
13 and installing transmission substation systems.

14 He was a relay protection engineer for  
15 Busman. And for a number of years he was with  
16 Pacific Gas and Electric where he was a quality  
17 assurance engineer and actually inspected  
18 transformers and switch gears and breakers, high  
19 voltage electrical equipment that was being  
20 manufactured to make sure it met specifications of  
21 the company.

22 CHAIRMAN MATHIAS: And Vantage responded

1 to the request for proposal from the Illinois  
2 Commerce Commission, was selected to perform this  
3 study, and having qualified you, hopefully, as an  
4 expert, would you please give us your overview of  
5 the report which you provided.

6 I might also indicate that copies of this  
7 report, as I indicated earlier, are available on the  
8 Illinois Commerce Commission web site now, and that  
9 web site is [www.icc.state.il.us](http://www.icc.state.il.us). That's  
10 [www.icc.state.il.us](http://www.icc.state.il.us) And that report is available at  
11 the web site now. Would you continue, please.